

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 26, amend the paragraph beginning at line 19 to read as follows.

When the paper money clamped between the tapered roller 103 and the driven roller 111 is transferred by rotationally driving the tapered roller 103, the tapered roller 103 is deformed axially in a direction from a small diameter toward a large diameter in taper as shown by dot-line in Fig.-8\_18, so that a force F is generated to urge the paper money in the direction, as shown in Fig. 19. A transparent window 53s is arranged to input the image of the paper money through the transparent window 53s into the CCD line sensor.